

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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**Dispute Settlement Body  
Special Session**

## **SPECIAL SESSION OF THE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT BODY**

Report by the Chairman, Ambassador Ronald Saborío Soto,  
to the Trade Negotiations Committee

Since my last written report, the DSB Special Session met once, on 24 and 25 April 2006. Members have also continued to be actively engaged in informal consultations in various formats, to advance the work on clarifications and improvements to the DSU.

At the meeting of 24 and 25 April, four contributions received since the previous meeting were presented: an informal contribution by Hong Kong, China in respect of the conditions for interested Members to be joined in consultations (JOB(06)/89); an additional joint informal contribution by the European Communities and Japan on "post-retaliation" (JOB(05)/47/Add.1); an informal contribution by Argentina, Brazil, Canada, India, New Zealand and Norway on remand; and a contribution by the United States on transparency (TN/DS/W/86). The Special Session had a useful initial informal discussion of all four contributions.

At that meeting, some delegations also confirmed that they continued to work, in consultation with other Members, on issues relating to developing country participation, with a view to submitting revised contributions as early as possible.

As I had outlined in February, our objective is to be fully engaged in text-based discussion by the summer, with a view to finalizing on that basis an agreed text as rapidly as possible.

The next meeting of the DSB in Special Session is scheduled for 22 and 23 May 2006.

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